

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BOTANISTS

BOTANICAL LEAFLETS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

NCB plans to have our next symposium in January 2022 and assume we will be able to meet in person. We are also looking into having a virtual option as well. We will keep you informed and will post new information on our website.

Julie Kierstead has stepped down from the Board after serving since 2015. She has been instrumental in many of our programs and has helped plan and has presented at many of our Symposia. Thank you Julie!

Every three years, NCB needs to approve the slate of

the Board of Directors. We will send this out to the members to vote on soon. We would also like to add one or two student directors so will also ask the members if they approve of adding two student directors to the board.

As most of you know, Dean Taylor passed away in 2020. We have added a new award to honor his goals of finding unknown botanical diversity in northern California. See page 2 regarding this new award.

NCB again solicited applications for student research

scholarships and received numerous fantastic applications. It was hard to make the selections! This year, NCB will be awarding thirteen \$1,000 scholarships. Thank you very much to the Shasta and Sacramento Valley chapters of CNPS for providing two of these awards! Hopefully, a new batch of botanists doing vital work in Northern California will develop from those scholarships.

Take care and stay well during this pandemic!

Linnea Hanson, President

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President: Linnea Hanson

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Gail Kuenster

WELCOME ISRAEL BOROKINI TO THE BOARD!

NCB is pleased to announce the addition of Israel Borokini to the Board. Israel is a David H Smith Conservation Research Postdoctoral fellow starting in Dr. Brent Mishler's lab, Department of Integrative Biology, University of California, Berkeley. Prior to that, he worked on *Ivesia webberi*, a federally threatened plant species, completing a 5-chapter dissertation research, which included the discovery of eight new locations of the plant species in Northern California. Originally from Nigeria, he fell in love with the Great Basin Desert for its beautiful wildflowers, mountains, and hot springs. Israel is interested in species distributions in time and space, the eco-evolutionary underpinnings of their distributions and community assemblages across landscapes.

MYSTERY PLANT

This plant, seen here growing on open rocky serpentine slopes above the Trinity River, is a low shrub about 3-4 dm tall. The flowers are 2-3 cm wide. This species is from a genus and family that most northern California botanists have never heard of unless they've spent time exploring the mountains in the Great Basin or Mojave Desert, where the Jepson Manual says it grows on limestone. This photo is from April 22, 2021 and on most of the plants, but not this one yet, the petals were already beginning to wither.

Photo by Lawrence Janeway



Answer on Page 3

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DEAN W. TAYLOR BOTANICAL EXPLORATION MEMORIAL AWARD

In 2020, we lost Dean William Taylor, a giant of the Northern California botanical community. He had an irrepressible enthusiasm for everything botanical, a genius for teaching, and an unparalleled understanding of the mechanisms driving plant speciation and distribution. His record of outstanding collections and discovery of new taxa speaks for itself. Dean was a champion of the unexplored botanical diversity of California, and frequently took the stage at our symposia to encourage people to collect specimens and work to define that diversity. In the absence of

his electrifying speeches and reliable advice, we hope that the material support of the Dean W. Taylor Botanical Exploration Memorial Award will help a new generation of botanists fill his shoes.

The aim of this award is to cover costs associated with botanical exploration in Northern California. It is open to all people with an interest in the native plants and wildland ecology of Northern California, including students, practicing botanists, land managers, and dedicated herbarium collec-

tors. We encourage projects that echo Dean Taylor's goals of finding unknown botanical diversity in California, namely collecting in under-collected areas, work to explore the habitat and range of known taxa, and efforts to discover and define new taxa. Applications for this year will be due on October 1, 2021 and should provide a short description of the proposed project, a budget of how funds (up to \$500) will be spent, and a resume emphasizing botanical experience. Please email us or check our website for more information.

2021-2022 STUDENT RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

NCB provides scholarships for students doing research on botanical subjects in northern and central California. The Sacramento Valley and Shasta chapters of CNPS generously support this program by funding an additional scholarship each. There were many great research projects to choose from. Congratulations to these students and thank you to all that submitted applications!

Recipient	Degree	College	Title of Research Project
Elijah Balderas	MS	Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo	An ecological assessment of an endangered lichen from Central California, <i>Sulcaria isidiifera</i> , the Splitting Yarn Lichen.
Nora Bales	MS	Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo	Investigating the relationship between biological soil crust and <i>Hooveria purpurea</i> var. <i>purpurea</i> , a rare plant on California's Central Coast.
Brook Constantz	PhD	University of California, Santa Cruz	Evaluating restored forests along the Sacramento River, California for an alternative stable state.
Chenjiao Deng	MS/PhD	University of California, Davis	Investigating the identities of populations of <i>Castilleja</i> (Orobanchaceae) in the vicinity of Mt. Lassen.
Rosemary Frederick	MS/PhD	University of Nevada, Reno	The maternal effects of production environment on <i>Elymus elymoides</i> in grassland restoration.
Emma Fryer	MS	Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo	Community assembly of the vertic clay flora of the San Joaquin Desert.
Anjum Gujral	MS	San Francisco State University	Investigating pattern of leaf trait coordination to inform climatic limits in California flora.
Ashley Grupenhoff	PhD	University of California, Davis	Plant community response to increased fire frequency in northern California chaparral.
Reed Kenny	PhD	University of California, Davis	A phylogenetic analysis of the placement of <i>Juncus</i> Sections <i>Caespitosi</i> and <i>Graminifolii</i> .
Sophia Lemmo	MS	Humboldt State University	Tree mortality and regeneration across competitive gradients and varying habitats in northern California.
Justin Luong	PhD	University of California, Santa Cruz	Does drought facilitate competitive release for native species in a coastal prairie?
Thomas Samojedny *Shasta Chapter *	Under-grad	Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo	X-ray fluorescence of herbarium specimens: A path to the discovery of additional nickel hyperaccumulators in California.
Kelli Thorup	MS	California State University, Chico	Alleviation of thermal stress in <i>Pinus ponderosa</i> by plant-growth promoting rhizobacteria isolated from mixed-conifer forests.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BOTANISTS IN ACTION

A continuing series that highlights well-known to possibly less-well-known botanists. Please share unpublished pictures of northern California botanists: send jpegs and information to ncbotanists@gmail.com



Kerry Byrne joined the NCB Board in 2020. She is an Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Environmental Science and Management at Humboldt State

University (HSU). She grew up in northern California and is thrilled to be back after spending 4 years in southern Oregon (teaching at Oregon Institute of Technology) and 5 years in Colorado (earning a PhD in Ecology at Colorado State University). At HSU, she teaches courses in natural history, ecology, and ecological restoration. Despite living in the redwoods, she's a grassland ecologist at heart and is interested in how anthropogenic changes (such as drought, invasive species, and habitat loss) affect rare species, plant communities, and ecosystems. When Kerry isn't teaching and helping students with research projects, she enjoys being outdoors with her husband, daughters, and border collie, *Zea mays*. The photo shows Kerry (5 months pregnant with her second daughter) collecting plant species composition data at a drought experiment on the Modoc Plateau.



Mark Bibbo is a Santa Cruz-based botanist working for H.T. Harvey and Associates where his work focuses on the South San Francisco Bay Area and Central California. Mark received an undergraduate degree from U.C. Santa Cruz and a master's degree at U.C. Davis. It was at Davis where he gained his botany chops working with many a

great botanist in the UCD Herbarium, and then working on field crews for CDFW and CNPS collecting vegetation data throughout the Sierras - from Lassen to Sequoia National Forests, and from the upper montane zones down to the low foothills. As a botanical consultant, Mark has had the opportunity to work all over the state looking for rare plants and documenting botanical diversity. What he loves most about his job is the opportunity to share botanical knowledge with his colleagues, co-workers, and the public. Mark is seen here cradling his favorite tome, sitting in a serpentine seep on Walker Ridge.



Erin Lonergan is currently the Forest Botanist for the Klamath National Forest. Her interest in plants began as a teenager while working for a land mitigation company and eventually led her to receive a M.S. in Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology. She has worked as a botanist for Federal, State, and County agencies as well as non-profit organizations across California, Oregon, eastern Washington, Idaho, and Montana. Her work on the Klamath National Forest primarily includes the application of environmental policy, rare and invasive species management, maintaining local partnerships, and educational outreach.



Cherilyn Burton works as a Senior Environmental Scientist in the Native Plant Program at the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). She works on a variety of tasks related to native plant conservation with a focus on state-listed plant species. Her work includes reviewing California Endangered Species Act listing petitions and writing permits for research on state-listed plants. Cherilyn also monitors several federal and state-listed plant species on CDFW-owned lands. She is a member of the California Consulting Botanist Board of Certification and is a Certified Consulting Botanist. Cherilyn is seen here while out monitoring *Ivesia webberi* at Hallelujah Junction Wildlife Area.



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
BOTANISTS

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Save the Date!
NCB 2022 Symposium
January 10-11, 2022
Chico, California

Please send address changes to:

ncbotanists@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

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MEMBERSHIP DUES:

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In addition, I would like to donate \$_____ to Northern California Botanists to help fund NCB programs and student research scholarships.

Make checks payable to "Northern California Botanists" and mail to:

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